Dear Jim, 7/5/75

With all the nutty stuff going on I'm telling nobody else (those worth telling being too busy anyway) and with all we have to do I'll not do anything with it now except perhaps make a police inquiry, but I've caught the Archives at al masking in a report on documents what is not withheld in the documents themselves.

There is a long report on Oswald's Foreign Activities, more than 100 pages with a partly-withheld appendix. There are, as I recall, four different kinds of masking, one always on a different size of paper.

It is a report by Coleman and Slawson that really seeks to go into Oswald as an agent and falls very far short. (That is where I'm filing it.)

I can understand that Ford found Coleman well qualified for his cabinet.

There is real cold-warrior thinking in it.

And suppression. They omit the best of Nosenko simply because it is opposed to what they want to say. Thus also they don't go into how Oswald managed to get to Helsinki by plane but have ample room for the sick imaginings of McVickar. Even to making an appendix of it.

When they know there is absolutely nothing to the Vwlencia Gutierrez and Alvareda Ugarte stories to begin with they are probably the largest single part and are labelled the best cases of Cuban conspiracy. (Bud's wrong pix.)

In that entire section there is no mention of the pictures! Maybe that is part of what is still masked.

By the way, on this, there was a Helms letter declassified just this June 5 as I recall saying the picture should not be published because it would hurt an innocent man there was no reason to believe had any connection with the assassination. Interesting timing on the declassification, too?

I've done a memo that ought not intrude on your time now on this long memo.

In it I've marginal markings on all withholdings. After Rhoads has more time to answer the questions I don't think he will I'll raise questions about withholding citations from the non-secret Nosenko documents and other such innocent items.

What I think may have happened is that this stuff was masked years ago and then not released. So they've been gone over again and more taken out. Embarrassing stuff, I think.

In going over this old stuff I found myself wondering what LHO did with more than 2,500 rubles, a lot of money in those days. This is what he had left after he paid off his bills and got to Minsk, where he had a better than average salary, a regular gift of as much for much of that time, and not much way to spend any money.

It felt good to work on something different for a change.

And how these types worked around their evidence also is interesting. Nosenko is one of the more interesting problems they had. He had nothing to say that they liked.

And there seems never to have been anything on him from the CIA.

Best,